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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/525,334	09/08/2005	Jonathan Charles Wheals	KILBU P-75 / 500728.20084	3639
26418	7590	06/27/2007	EXAMINER	
REED SMITH, LLP			LE, DAVID D	
ATTN: PATENT RECORDS DEPARTMENT			ART UNIT	
599 LEXINGTON AVENUE, 29TH FLOOR			PAPER NUMBER	
NEW YORK, NY 10022-7650			3681	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			06/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/525,334

Applicant(s)

WHEALS, JONATHAN CHARLES

Examiner

David D. Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 8-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 8-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/22/05, 05/10/05.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the first Office action on the merits of Application No. 10/525,334, filed 08 September 2005. Claims 1, 2 and 8-15 are pending.

Documents

2. The following documents have been received and filed as part of the patent application:
 - Declaration and Power of Attorney, received on 09/08/05
 - Information Disclosure Statement, received on 05/11/05
 - Copy of Foreign Priority Document, received on 02/22/05
 - Information Disclosure Statement, received on 02/22/05

Specification

3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains legal phraseology "means". Correction is required. See MPEP § 1826.
5. The specification is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - The present specification does not include headings of the parts of the description. See MPEP 1823 and PCT Administrative Instruction Section 204.
 - Page 10, line 2 of the present specification, "a sun wheel S1" should be --a sun wheel S2--.
 - Page 10, line 3 of the present specification, "a coaxial sun wheel S2" should be --a coaxial sun wheel S1--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

6. Claims 1 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Claim 1, line 8, "the gear ratios" should be --gear ratios--.
 - Claim 1, line 17, "its axis" should be --an axis--.
 - Claim 1, line 20, "its engine" should be --an engine--.
 - Claim 1, line 23, "the said signal" should be --said signal--.

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- Claim 12, line 7, "the gear ratio" should be --a gear ratio--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1, 2 and 8-15 are allowed.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Shibahata et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,518,463) teaches a torque distributing mechanism, as shown in Fig. 2.
- Borgudd (U. S. Patent No. 5,176,589) teaches a differential gear, as shown in Fig. 8.
- Ruhle (U. S. Patent No. 4,612,824) teaches a transmission system, as shown in Fig.1.
- Suzuki (U. S. Patent No. 4,449,604) teaches a four-wheel drive system, as shown in Fig. 2.

9. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

- The abstract as set forth in paragraph 4 above.
- The specification, as set forth in paragraph 5 above.
- The claim objections, as set forth in paragraph 6 above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

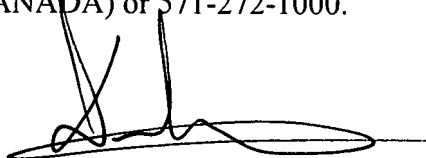
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A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-7092. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (0700-1530).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



David D. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681
06/12/2007

ddl